

Action against petrol pumps involved in adulteration

†108. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ, will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the petrol pumps situated in several parts of the country are involved in adulteration;
- (b) if so, the number of petrol pumps in Delhi and other parts of the country which have been found involved in adulteration during the last six months;
- (c) whether Government have taken any action against them, so far; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) The Government have received complaints regarding adulteration of automobile fuels. Oil Marketing Companies carry out regular/surprise checks of retail outlets, to prevent various malpractices including adulteration. In addition, special drives are launched by the oil companies both on their own and also Under direction of Government from time to time to check malpractices. To prevent adulteration various steps like blue dyeing of kerosene (Public Distribution System), furfural doping, filter paper test, stock reconciliation, checking of retail outlets by mobile laboratories, etc are taken by oil companies.

The number of cases of adulteration reported in country including Delhi are 148. Action has been taken by the Oil Marketing Companies in accordance with the dealership agreements.

Rights to oil companies to prevent adulteration

†109. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in view of massive adulteration in petroleum products. Government have given many rights to the oil companies to check the same;
- (b) if so, since when, and the details in this regard; and
- (c) if not, in what manner Government propose to check the adulteration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) To check the

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.